I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No.EL 914 047 634 US, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date

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January 27, 2006

Signature: (Danielle L. Herritt)

## 10/566192 IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 JAN 2006

Docket No.: HEU-004US (PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Antonio Giangrasso

Application No.: National Phase of

PCT/EP2004/008401

Confirmation N/A

U.S. Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith

I.A. Filing Date: July 27, 2005

Art Unit: N/A

For: USE OF INERT, POROUS MATERIALS IN

ORDER TO REDUCE THE SALT CONTENT IN AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS, AND METHOD

AND DEVICE THEREFOR

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

Copies of references A1-A6 on the PTO/SB/08 are not provided. A copy of reference A7, the Written Opinion generated during the prosecution of international application no. PCT/EP2004/008401, which corresponds to the above referenced application.

IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 JAN 2006

National Phase of PCT/EP2004/008401

Docket No.: HEU-004US

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. HEU-004US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: January 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle L. Herritt

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## 10/566192 PAPS RECUPCT/PTO 27 JAN 2006

PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)
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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----|---|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE          |                                   |    |   | Application Number     | National Phase of PCT/EP2004/008401 |  |
|                                 |                                   |    |   | Filing Date            | Concurrently herewith               |  |
| S                               | STATEMENT BY APPLICANT            |    |   | First Named Inventor   | Antonio Giangrasso                  |  |
|                                 |                                   |    |   | Art Unit               | N/A                                 |  |
|                                 | (Use as many sheets as necessary) |    |   | Examiner Name          | Not Yet Assigned                    |  |
| Sheet                           | 1                                 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | HEU-004US                           |  |

|                    |              |  | U.S. PA                        | TENT DOCUMENTS                                     |   |
|--------------------|--------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( <i>if known</i> ) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                    | A1           | US-3,539,454   | 11-10-1970                     | Tufo   |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |              |   |                             |  |   |   |  |
|--------------------------|--------------|---|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No.1 | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | Г |  |
|                          |              | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                             |  |   |   |  |
|                          | А3           | JP-7-108101 A   | 04-25-1995                  | Terusa International KK                            |   | П |  |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \(^1\) Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). \(^2\) See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. \(^3\) Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). \(^4\) For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. \(^5\) Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. \(^6\) Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials            | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |  |  |
|                                 | A6                       | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Bd. 1995 Nr. 07, August 31, 1995   |                |  |  |
|                                 | A7                       | Written Opinion for PCT/EP2004/008401 (9 pages)   |                |  |  |

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

| Examiner  | - | <br>Date       |  |
|-----------|---|----------------|--|
| Signature |   | <br>Considered |  |
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.